

The regular meeting of the Town Assembly of the Village of Arden was held on January 28, 1974 in the Gild Hall with Chairman, William Press, presiding.

The minutes of the September 24 meeting were circulated and on motion approved.

A letter was received from Dorothy Winter, Margaret Broadbent's daughter, thanking the village for the memorial service held on October 14 honoring Margaret.

Mr. Liberman presented, William Morley, who was elected Trustee by the November referendum.

The financial report of the Trustees was presented and on motion accepted. A copy is on file. Mr. Liberman explained that the New Castle County taxes including the school and sewer fees were \$75,504.93 which was an increase over the previous year of \$23,000. The 51 acres of commons and forests that the Trustees deeded to the Village of Arden were tax exempt, but the value of the land and the properties had increased so much that total taxes were much higher. There is only about \$2000. left to cover the town expenses until taxes for the 1974-1975 year are received. There is a small balance in the Municipal Street Aid Fund and in the Revenue Sharing Fund, but these have been allocated to roads. The report of the Trustees was accepted.

The Civic Committee report prepared by Warren Hoffman and presented by Reese Davis stated that the committee had held two meetings, one of them an open meeting since the last Town Assembly. The committee will have other open meetings to permit any resident to bring items of interest to the committee. In late fall, Lower Lane, the Millers Road, Lower Lane, Walnut Lane intersection and Millers Road from Walnut Lane to Ardentown border were repaved. This work was done from Municipal Street Aid Funds. The Committee agreed to transfer \$3009 from the Street Aid Fund to the Town funds to pay the sewer bonds. This was made possible by a recent change in State law. The use of the Street Aid Fund helped relieve a serious financial crisis, but the Civic Committee has had to curtail necessary road improvements. Cost of repaving is going up substantially; therefore, we should commit the town to a road program as soon as possible.

The New Castle County Housing Code now states that no vehicle in a state of disrepair or not having current license tags may be stored on private property. The Committee plans to contact all residents having such vehicles, and subsequently ask the County to enforce this code. Street signs and posts will be replaced throughout the Village as soon as possible.

The committee report on motion was accepted.

The Board of Assessors were all sworn in at a recent meeting and Michael Curtis elected Chairman and Penny Colgan, Secretary. Two open meetings will be held on May 26 and June 3 at the Buzz Ware Community Center. Notices are sent to all residents, but people do not attend. The purpose of the meetings is to permit leaseholders to question the assessments. On motion the report of the Assessors was accepted.

No report from the Auditing or Budget Committees.

Frank Akutowicz gave the report of the Community Planning Committee:

1. The Arden Book is in press. They plan to print as many copies as the budget will permit. One copy will be delivered to each leasehold, and the balance will be sold as a source of income for the village.
2. The committee ~~is~~ studying a forest policy and will make recommendations as to what should be done with our forests. Any suggestions will be accepted.
3. Naaman's Creek project has been reactivated and work will start soon. The County has a new set of proposals for the creek. a. They are going to lift the moratorium on building and they are going to try to negotiate agreements with individual builders to control runoff. b. Considering a retention basin on Log Run above Naaman's Road. c. They are trying to reach an agreement with Bethel Township in Pennsylvania to control runoff. d. County wants to remove the dam above the Mill and enlarge certain culverts. e. They are willing to build dikes for for two families on the creek, one of which is in Arden.

There have been several meetings on this project and one is planned on February 5. Suggest that a resolution might be drafted to oppose the removal of the dam. This will be presented under new business. One compromise that might help would be the removal of the silt behind the dam and then using the area as a retention dam.

Nothing has been said about enlarging the Marsh Road bridge which acts a dam across the creek during very high floods.

Brandywine Council of Civic Associations is going to try to get park land in the area. Park land helps flood control by maintaining ~~the~~ trees.

The Hamby Tract plans are being reworked. The report was accepted as read.

Safety Committee report presented by Richard Lynch. The Committee has met three times since September and held one open meeting. They intend to continue practice of having open meetings.

Thw Halloween patrol was successful in discouraging vandalism and it is planned to reactivate the patrol in 1974 during the Halloween season.

The new parking regulations around the Arden Green, in combination with other rules, seem to have resulted in a permanent solution to the Arden Green problem, but the committee with monitor the activity throughout the spring.

Although the June, 1973 Town Meeting officially designated members of the Safety Committee as Town Constables, it has not been possible to commence such activity because of bureaucratic problems. The Committee plans to enforce such laws not enforced by the State or County Police.

The Arden-Bellefonte patrol has been terminated, but Arden is benefiting from a higher level of patrolling.

The report on motion was accepted.

Registration Committee report by Carolyn Liberman: All items of the Budget were passed by a large majority. The Board of Assessors are: Michael Curtis, Penny Colgan, Carl VonDreele, Shaul Gladstone, Aaron Hamburger, Morris Rosin and Carolyn Liberman.

William Morley was elected Trustee at the November referendum.

The Registration Committee held its first block party for the area from Marsh to Hillside and Harvey to the Naaman's creek. About 42 of the 64 people in the block attended and the idea of meeting your neighbors was very well received. The Registration Committee financed the punch and residents helped with food. The party was held at the Doughertys' on Marsh Road. Help in financing other parties will be asked. The next area will be from Hillside to Orleans, Harvey to Millers. There are 423 eligible voters for this meeting.

Advisory Committee report will be given under new business.

Archives Committee by Cy Liberman. The Delaware Historical Society is now storing material in in fire proof quarters. We have 29 boxes of material that is being cataloged. This collection is not readily available. Robert Wynn has provided space in the Craft Shop and Penny Colgan and Michael Curtis are preparing an archive collection there.

Harvey Road Committee: Temma Tanzer and Cy Liberman met with two representatives of the Highway Department to see if they would do anything to improve the safety along Harvey Road. Their attitude was that they would be glad to increase road width to 60 feet, but at present they only have 33foot right-of-way. They were asked if there was any way of improving the ditches along the road. They are going to ask for \$20,000. to make an engineering study for safety improvements. If they get this money in July, 1974, then they will ask for money in the 1975 budget to make the improvements. Many appeals have been made to police to control speeding. The committee requested yellow line down the middle of the road and this was done, but they will not paint white lines on the edges of the road to indicate the ditches. Report on motion approved

No report from the Assistance Programs for Community Development Committee.

Three Arden's Resources Committee report by Leon Tanzer. The committee has organized a committee of six persons, two from each of the three Ardens. The committee will record acts of vandalism and burglaries and keep a record of any persons involved in these acts. Committee will inform parents of any children guilty of vandalism, etc. The Arden members are William Bindloss and Michael Dougherty. Report on motion approved.

Buzz Ware Willage Center report by William Morley: The use of the center by Arden groups is developing. Yoga and Economics of Single Tax meets weekly. A Growing Things Group under leadership of Bea Jaffe will start in February. A general interest discussion group is in the formative stage. Organization of storage is coming under control and a more comfortable lounge area is being worked out. In the spring a sign will be erected and the center dedicated. There is \$1100. in the long term replacement fund. A course of applied economics is starting on January 29th. Building must be reserved through Bea Jaffe.

Frank Akutowicz attended the meeting of the Delaware League of Local Governments on November 29, 1973. Elbert N. Carvel, former governor of Delaware spoke on Delaware's Tax Situation. He spoke on the inadequacies and inefficient tax system. Frank felt that representatives should be sent from Arden that had the authority to participate fully in the meetings.

Advisory Committee report was presented under New Business by the Chairman, Aaron Hamburger. It was felt that it necessary to clear up some of the election procedures that are not clearly defined in the Town Charter.

It was pointed out that we need to have more than one person to attend all the many meetings outside of Arden; therefore, we need to have more help for the Chairman of the Town Assembly.

A motion was made that the Chairman of the Town Assembly may appoint one or two residents to serve as Deputy Mayors. The Deputy Mayor shall assist the Chairman of the Town Assembly in the performance of his duties and may represent him at public and governmental meetings and function's at the Chairman's discretion.

The suggested amendment that the term mayor should be changed to deputy chairman was accepted by the maker and seconder of the motion.

Some felt that the deputy should be held accountable to the Town Assembly and not only answerable to the Town Chairman.

An amended motion was made that the Town Assembly may elected one or two residents to serve as deputy chairmen.

During the discussion on this amendment it was pointed out that it will make the job difficult to have two or more people elected to truly represent the Chairman of the Town Assembly. The purpose of the original motion was to have assistance for the Chairman when it is impossible for him to attend all the necessary meeting. The amendment calling for election of a deputy chairman was defeated.

The Original motion was accepted with two nays.

Motion to establish election procedure for Town officials. "Election of the Chairman of the Town Assembly, Secretary of the Town Assembly, Treasurer of the Town Assembly and Chairman of the Advisory Committee shall be a majority of ballots cast at the regular March meeting of the Town Assembly. If no candidate receives a majority, then that candidate who received the smallest number of votes is disqualified and a second ballot is taken. Balloting shall continue in this manner until one candidate receives a majority of ballots cast.

Temma Tanzer suggested that only the two highest be voted on. The motion was carried unanimously.

The following motion was made and carried with with one nay vote:

Motion to Establish Election Procedure for Town Committees. Residents elected to Committees of the Town Assembly except the Board of Assessors shall be as follows:

Candidates elected will those receiving the highest number of votes for the positions to be filled. In the case of a tie for the

last position on a Committee, a run-off election between the tying candidates shall be held. This motion supersedes any election procedure for Committees in effect from previous Town Assembly actions.

A amendment to the above motion that all members of all committees be elected by a majority vote was withdrawn by its maker and seconder.

Nominees for Town Assembly Committees were made by the Advisory Committee. Reese Davis withdrew his name as a candidate for chairman of Town Assembly. The following slate was accepted without change, but nominations can be made on the floor of the March meeting. Those marked with an asterisk are presently serving.

AUDITING COMMITTEE: William Bindloss*, Alton Dahl, Ted Davis, Michael Dougherty, Elvira Grimaldi*, Larry Lipstein.

BUDGET COMMITTEE: Bernard Brachman, Clyde Davis*, John Grimaldi, Margaret Saye*

CIVIC COMMITTEE: Michael Dougherty, Barbara Fenske, Woodrow Vandever*, Norman VanGulick

COMMUNITY PLANNING COMMITTEE: Ted Davis*, Leon Tanzer, Paul Thompson, Edith Ware*

REGISTRATION COMMITTEE: Deborah Colgan, Mary Kume, Kay Ringer*, Sally Hamburger*, Kathryn Petersen, Maryanne Van Neerden

SAFETY COMMITTEE: Cheryl Jones, Joseph Naff, Richard Lynch* Temma Tanzer*

BUZZ WARE VILLAGE CENTER COMMITTEE: David Adkins, Aaron Hamburger*, June Kleban, Penny Colgan, Beatrice Jaffe*, Jerry Millstein*, Sue Dougherty* Gary Jones, William Morley*, Irene O'Conner.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN: Sue Dougherty, Aaron Hamburger*

SECRETARY OF TOWN ASSEMBLY: Mary Morley*

TREASURER OF TOWN ASSEMBLY: Rae Gerstine*

CHAIRMAN OF TOWN ASSEMBLY: Michael Curtis, William Press*

The following resolution was made and adopted unanimously:

"The Town Assembly of the Village of Arden urges New Castle County to take action to reduce flooding in Naaman's Creek in Arden.

The Assembly urges that the former Arden Water Company dam be used as a retention basin instead of being removed.

It further urges that in the event there is further development in the watershed up stream from Arden that positive steps be taken as recommended by the Christina Basin Study to prevent fast run-off of storm water and to increase infiltration of rain water into the soil."

Motion made and passed that Representative Dan Weiss, Andrew Casey and Senator Steele be sent notices of the Town Assembly.

Letters of sympathy to be sent to Charlotte Williams for Albee's death, Betty Cirker on death of Hart Cirker and Hattie Monahan on loss of her son.

Robert Wynn reported opening of Archives gallery of three Arden in the Craft Shop on February 3 from 3 to 5 P. M.

The Town Assembly welcomes the opportunity of having the Satori Woodwind Quartet give a concert in the Spring in the Gild Hall.

The meeting on motion adjourned,

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Morley

Secretary